

[0113] The image sensor of FIG. 15 is substantially the same as the image sensor of FIG. 12, except for the arrangement of first color separation elements 131. Referring to FIG. 15, two adjacent first color separation elements 131 may be positioned with respect to each other at an angle of 90 degrees. For example, first color separation elements 131 arranged in a vertical direction and first color separation elements 131 arranged in a horizontal direction may be alternately arranged in a first pixel row P1. Also, first color separation elements 131 arranged in the horizontal direction and first color separation elements 131 arranged in the vertical direction may be alternately arranged in a second pixel row P2.

[0114] In this case, the first color separation elements 131 arranged in the vertical direction in the first pixel row P1 may provide light C1+C3, which is a mixture of lights having first and third wavelength bands, to first pixels 110a arranged in the first pixel row P1. The first color separation elements 131 arranged in the horizontal direction in the first pixel row P1 may provide the light C1+C3, which is the mixture of the lights having the first and third wavelength bands, to third pixels 110c arranged in another pixel row (e.g., the second pixel row P2). The first color separation elements 131 arranged in the vertical direction in the second pixel row P2 may provide the light C1+C3, which is the mixture of the lights having the first and third wavelength bands, to the third pixels 110c arranged in the second pixel row P2. The first color separation elements 131 arranged in the horizontal direction in the second pixel row P2 may provide the light C1+C3, which is the mixture of the lights having the first and third wavelength bands, to first pixels 110a arranged in another pixel row (e.g., the first pixel row P1 or a third pixel row P3).

[0115] FIG. 16 is a schematic plan view of a structure of pixels of an image sensor according to still another exemplary embodiment.

[0116] The image sensor of FIG. 16 is substantially the same as the image sensor of FIG. 12, except for the arrangement of first color separation elements 131. Referring to FIG. 16, the first color separation elements 131 may extend (or may be oriented) in a first diagonal direction (e.g., from a top left to a bottom right) of the pixel array. Thus, the first color separation elements 131 may be arranged to cross a plurality of second pixels 110b in the first diagonal direction. In this case, the first color separation elements 131 may provide light C1+C3 which is a mixture having lights of first and third wavelength bands to first pixels 110a and third pixels 110c. Although FIG. 16 illustrates that the first color separation elements 131 extend in the first diagonal direction, the first color separation elements 131 may extend in a second diagonal direction (e.g., from a top right to a bottom left) intersecting the first diagonal direction.

[0117] FIG. 17 is a schematic plan view of a structure of pixels of an image sensor according to still another exemplary embodiment.

[0118] In the image sensor of FIG. 17, first color separation elements 131 may extend in both a first diagonal direction and a second diagonal direction. For example, each of the first color separation elements 131 may include a first sub-color separation element 131a that extends in the first diagonal direction (e.g., from a top left to bottom right) and a second sub-color separation element 131b that extends in the second diagonal direction (e.g., from a top right to a bottom left).

[0119] FIG. 18 illustrates an arrangement of four 2×2 patterns according to the embodiment of FIG. 6.

[0120] Each of the four 2×2 patterns illustrated in FIG. 18 is substantially the same as the 2×2 pattern according to the embodiment of FIG. 6. As illustrated in FIG. 18, a second color separation element 132 may be arranged on each of a plurality of first pixels 110a and a plurality of third pixels 110c. A first color filter 121 may be arranged only on each of the plurality of first pixels 110a and not arranged in the other pixels.

[0121] FIG. 19 is a schematic plan view of a structure of pixels of an image sensor according to still another exemplary embodiment.

[0122] The image sensor of FIG. 19 is substantially the same as the image sensor of FIG. 18, except for the arrangement of second color separation elements 132. Referring to FIG. 19, two adjacent second color separation elements 132 may be positioned with respect to each other at an angle of about 90 degrees. For example, second color separation elements 132 arranged in a vertical direction and second color separation elements 132 arranged in a horizontal direction may be alternately arranged in a first pixel row P1. Also, second color separation elements 132 arranged in the horizontal direction and second color separation elements 132 arranged in the vertical direction may be alternately arranged in a second pixel row P2. In this case, the second color separation elements 132 arranged in the vertical direction may provide light C2 having a second wavelength band to second pixels 110b arranged in the pixel rows in which the second color separation elements 132 are arranged. The second color separation elements 132 arranged in the horizontal direction may provide the light C2 of the second wavelength band to the second pixels 110b arranged in pixel rows in which the second color separation elements 132 are not arranged.

[0123] FIG. 20 is a schematic plan view of a structure of pixels of an image sensor according to still another exemplary embodiment.

[0124] The image sensor of FIG. 20 is substantially the same as the image sensor of FIG. 18, except for the arrangement of second color separation elements 132. Referring to FIG. 20, the second color separation elements 132 may extend in a first diagonal direction. Thus, the second color separation elements 132 may be arranged to cross a plurality of first pixels 110a and a plurality of third pixels 110c in the first diagonal direction. Although FIG. 20 illustrates that the second color separation elements 132 extend in the first diagonal direction, the second color separation elements 132 may extend in a second diagonal direction intersecting the first diagonal direction.

[0125] FIG. 21 is a schematic plan view of a structure of pixels of an image sensor according to still another exemplary embodiment.

[0126] In the image sensor of FIG. 21, second color separation elements 132 may extend in both a first diagonal direction and a second diagonal direction. For example, each of the second color separation elements 132 may include a first sub-color separation element 132a that extends in the first diagonal direction and a second sub-color separation element 132b that extends in the second diagonal direction.

[0127] FIG. 22 illustrates an arrangement of four 2×2 patterns according to the embodiment of FIG. 10.

[0128] Each of the 2×2 patterns illustrated in FIG. 22 is substantially the same as the 2×2 pattern according to the